THE ANTALYA CALL

Proactive action for lasting resilience of food systems in the Sahel

Launched by partners working alongside the CCRS and its Member States

COP31 - SIDE EVENT

Feeding the Future in the Sahel

"Proactive action and the transformation of food systems to protect children and other vulnerable groups from climate shocks"

Africa Pavilion · Antalya · 13 November 2026

SIGNATORY INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANISATIONS

African, regional and sub-regional institutions

- Climate Commission for the Sahel Region (CCRS)
- African Union Commission (AUC) – ARBE Department
- African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD)
- Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS)
- Pan-African Green Great Wall Agency (APGMV)
- African Centre for Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD)
- Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD)

Development finance institutions

- African Development Bank (AfDB)
- Islamic Development Bank (IDB)
- West African Development Bank (BOAD)

United Nations system

- United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- World Food Programme (WFP)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO)

Multilateral and bilateral partners

- European Union (EU)
- Republic of Türkiye
- Federal Republic of Germany
- Kingdom of Spain
- Republic of Iceland
- Italian Republic
- Kingdom of the Netherlands
- United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Civil society organisations and international NGOs

- Plan International
- Pan-African Alliance for Climate Justice (PACJA)
- Youth Volunteers for the Environment Network (JVE)
- Elles du Sahel
- African Women Fish Processors and Traders (AWFishNet)
- Pan-African Platform of Non-State Actors in Fisheries and Aquaculture (AFRIFISH-Net)
- Aquatic Blue Food Coalition

PRÉAMBULE

We, sub-regional, regional and international partners working alongside the Climate Commission for the Sahel Region (CCRS) and its Member States, African institutions, United Nations agencies, technical and financial partners, research institutions and civil society organisations, gathered in Antalya on 13 November 2026 at the Africa Pavilion, on the sidelines of COP31, at the initiative of the CCRS and AUDA-NEPAD,

Recalling the mandate of the CCRS, under the auspices of the African Union, to coordinate and promote climate resilience and sustainable development initiatives in the Sahel by strengthening synergies among its Member States, its bilateral and multilateral partners, non-governmental organisations and other non-state actors, and to support the development of structuring and bankable projects and the mobilisation of resources in support of the climate resilience policies of its Member States;

Recalling also the African Union's Agenda 2063, the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS), the Early Warnings for All initiative and the multilateral and bilateral cooperation frameworks for the Sahel;

Noting that climate shocks in the Sahel (droughts, heatwaves, floods, land degradation and erratic rainfall) are no longer isolated events but have become structural, and that they undermine agriculture, pastoralism, water resources and the nutrition security of populations;

Recalling that Africa accounts for less than 4% of global greenhouse gas emissions, while children, pregnant and breastfeeding women, older persons, persons with disabilities, smallholder farmers, small-scale fishers and transhumant herders in the Sahel bear the heaviest burden of their effects;

Deeply concerned that, according to the June 2026 Cadre Harmonisé, 11.3 million children under five suffer from acute malnutrition in West Africa and the Sahel, including 3.2 million from severe acute malnutrition;

Recognising that aquatic foods from inland and coastal fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the ecosystems and value chains that sustain them, are an important component of food security, nutrition and livelihoods across the Sahel, and that these systems are increasingly exposed to changing rainfall patterns, extreme weather events, water scarcity, rising temperatures and ecosystem degradation;

Further recognising the contribution of nutritious aquatic foods to dietary diversity and to meeting the nutritional needs of children, pregnant and breastfeeding women and other vulnerable groups;

Considering that food crises in the Sahel are generally predictable thanks to the Cadre Harmonisé and the early warning systems of sub-regional and regional organisations and national services, but that financing mechanisms are not sufficient to prevent or durably mitigate these shocks;

Stressing that proactive action makes economic sense: according to WFP, OCHA and FAO, every dollar invested can generate up to seven dollars in avoided losses and benefits;

Noting with concern the gap between the adaptation needs of developing countries, estimated by UNEP at between 310 and 365 billion dollars per year by 2035, and the 26 billion dollars of international public finance allocated to adaptation in 2023;

Commending the political will and commitment of the CCRS Member States to the resilience of their populations, as well as the efforts made by the CCRS to fulfil its mandate, in particular through the Climate Investment Plan for the Sahel Region (PIC-RS);

Welcoming the message delivered in Antalya by the Republic of Djibouti on behalf of the CCRS Member States, reflecting their shared commitment, from the Atlantic to the Red Sea, to proactive action;

Convinced that preparedness must cease to be an exceptional response and become a fundamental pillar of climate action and resilience in the Sahel, under the leadership of States;

Aware that proactive action can only be scaled up in the Sahel if the following eight challenges are addressed collectively:

1. From warning to decision: warnings exist but still rarely lead to timely decisions, for lack of trigger thresholds and response protocols defined in advance;
2. Pre-arranged financing: most resources are still mobilised after the crisis, through slow and fragmented humanitarian appeals, whereas they must be available before the crisis strikes;
3. National ownership: to be sustainable, mechanisms must be embedded in national systems (adaptive social protection, budgets, response plans) without replacing them;
4. Climate data and services: observation networks, local forecasts and the resources of national meteorological and hydrological services remain insufficient, including for anticipating impacts on fisheries, aquaculture and aquatic food value chains;
5. Children and vulnerable groups: children remain largely overlooked in nationally determined contributions (NDCs) and national adaptation plans (NAPs); schools, health centres, water points and school canteens must remain open in times of crisis, and nutrition interventions should draw on the contribution of aquatic foods;
6. Fragility and insecurity: in fragile areas, access to populations and continuity of services are limited, which requires taking into account the links between climate, peace and security;
7. Cross-border dimension: transhumance, shared river and lake basins, aquatic food value chains and regional food markets extend beyond national borders and call for regional alignment of national measures;
8. Scale-up and sustainability: many pilot projects remain isolated and dependent on one-off funding; they must become national and regional programmes integrated into the conditional components of NDCs;

Welcoming the initiative of the CCRS to organise, in September 2027 in Niamey, a donor round table to finance the conditional scenarios of the NDCs of the countries of the Sahel region, focused on a regional portfolio of bankable projects aligned with the PIC-RS and Agenda 2063, estimated at nearly 2.9 billion dollars;

Considering that this round table provides a structural response to these challenges, in that it makes it possible, on the one hand, to shape a new generation of regional proactive-action projects (pre-agreed trigger thresholds and protocols, adaptive social protection, climate services, food systems resilience and child protection) and, on the other hand, to mobilise predictable, pre-agreed and coordinated resources, channelled through national systems, for the conditional components of NDCs;

Encouraging the progressive development of the fisheries and aquaculture resilience components of the PIC-RS 2025–2030, so that they become priority programmes ready for investment and able to attract climate and development finance, as well as cooperation to that end among the CCRS Member States, AUDA-NEPAD, the African Union Commission and technical and financial partners;

HEREBY LAUNCH THE ANTALYA CALL

I TO THE CCRS

Call upon the CCRS to:

1. transmit this Call to its Member States, with the support of the Republic of Djibouti, which spoke on their behalf in Antalya;
2. integrate the priorities of this Call into the implementation of the PIC-RS;
3. facilitate, in collaboration with specialised sub-regional and regional institutions, the harmonisation of trigger thresholds and the monitoring of cross-border risks;
4. facilitate the establishment of a regional framework for the exchange of experience and good practice among its Member States;
5. develop, in collaboration with its Member States and partners, the regional portfolio of bankable projects to be presented at the donor round table, incorporating proactive measures, food systems resilience – including, where appropriate, the fisheries and aquaculture components of the PIC-RS – and the protection of children and vulnerable groups;
6. coordinate, with AUDA-NEPAD, the follow-up to this Call

II TO THE AFRICAN UNION

Call upon the African Union Commission, through its Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment (ARBE), to:

1. support the CCRS in its advocacy to integrate proactive measures and food systems resilience in the Sahel into common African positions, in particular within the Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC), the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) and the African Group of Negotiators;
2. place these priorities on the agenda of COP32 in Addis Ababa;
3. support the CCRS in mobilising partners and financing for the donor round table

III TO THE CCRS MEMBER STATES

Encourage the CCRS Member States, in accordance with their national priorities and circumstances, to:

1. integrate proactive measures, including those aimed at climate-resilient terrestrial and aquatic food systems, into their national policies and frameworks: NDCs, NAPs, food and nutrition security strategies, social protection systems and crisis response plans;
2. define pre-agreed trigger thresholds and action protocols linking early warning to decision-making, and provide for budget lines that can be mobilised ahead of crises;
3. strengthen their meteorological, hydrological and food security services, including their application to aquatic food value chains;
4. protect and diversify climate-sensitive livelihoods, in particular pastoralism and livestock, inland and coastal fisheries and sustainable aquaculture, as well as the ecosystems, water resources and pastures on which they depend;
5. give central priority to children and vulnerable groups in adaptation plans and ensure continuity of essential social services in times of shock;
6. include proactive measures and food systems resilience among the priorities of the conditional components of their NDCs and identify, with the CCRS, the projects to be included in the regional portfolio;
7. take part, at the appropriate level, in the donor round table and carry these priorities into climate negotiations, in particular in the run-up to COP32

IV TO CIVIL SOCIETY

Invite civil society organisations and NGOs to:

1. ensure that the needs and knowledge of local communities, especially women and young people, are taken into account in the design of early response mechanisms;
2. disseminate this Call among communities and decision-makers at local, national and regional levels;
3. take part in monitoring implementation on the ground and help ensure accountability for the commitments made.

V FOR OUR PART, AS PARTNERS

Within our respective mandates and subject to applicable institutional procedures, we commit to:

1. channel our financing through national and regional systems, strengthening these systems without replacing them;
2. support the regional and sub-regional organisations and initiatives already contributing to proactive action and resilience in the Sahel, notably CILSS and its AGRHYMET Regional Centre (Cadre Harmonisé, early warning, climate information), the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall, basin organisations and national, regional and international research institutes, by strengthening their existing frameworks rather than creating parallel mechanisms;
3. put in place predictable, pre-arranged financing (reserve funds, climate risk insurance, risk financing mechanisms), based on scientific thresholds, so that resources are available before crises occur;
4. strengthen our joint programming at regional level, within the framework of UNISS, the Early Warnings for All initiative and our cooperation frameworks with Sahel countries, ensuring their coherence and complementarity;
5. invest in human capital, recognising that financing food systems means financing children's health and education;
6. work to increase the share of climate finance devoted to adaptation and to simplify access to it for Sahel countries;
7. support the CCRS in developing the regional project portfolio (feasibility studies, financial structuring, co-financing) and in organising the donor round table, at which we will endeavour to announce our financing intentions, any commitment remaining subject to each partner's internal approval procedures and available resources

Invite other technical and financial partners to join this initiative and take part in the round table, not only to listen to the Sahel, but also to invest alongside it.

FOLLOW-UP: FROM ANTALYA TO THE ROUND TABLE AND COP32

The Antalya Call is a starting point; the donor round table will be where commitments are made. To this end, we agree:

1. to contribute to integrating the recommendations of the Antalya meeting into the preparation of the regional portfolio of bankable projects;
2. to validate this portfolio in June–July 2027, with Member States and partners, ahead of the round table;
3. to make the donor round table on financing the conditional scenarios of the NDCs of the countries of the Sahel region (September 2027) the framework for translating this Call into financial commitments, on the basis of this portfolio aligned with the PIC-RS, Agenda 2063 and related frameworks;
4. to present a first review of the implementation of the Call at COP32 in Addis Ababa, so that this African COP is a COP of solutions;
5. to support the CCRS and AUDA-NEPAD in following up the Call, through a follow-up group involving partners.

Done in Antalya, 13 November 2026

« The Antalya Call is a starting point; the donor round table will be where commitments are made. »

FROM ANTALYA TO COP32

The roadmap of the Call

01

13 November 2026
Antalya – COP31

Launch of the Call at the Africa Pavilion.

02

June – July 2027
Portfolio validation

Validation of the regional portfolio of bankable projects with Member States and partners.

03

September 2027
Donor round table

Turning the Call into financial commitments on a portfolio of about 2.9 billion dollars.

04

COP32
Addis Ababa

Presenting a first review of implementation for an African COP of solutions.